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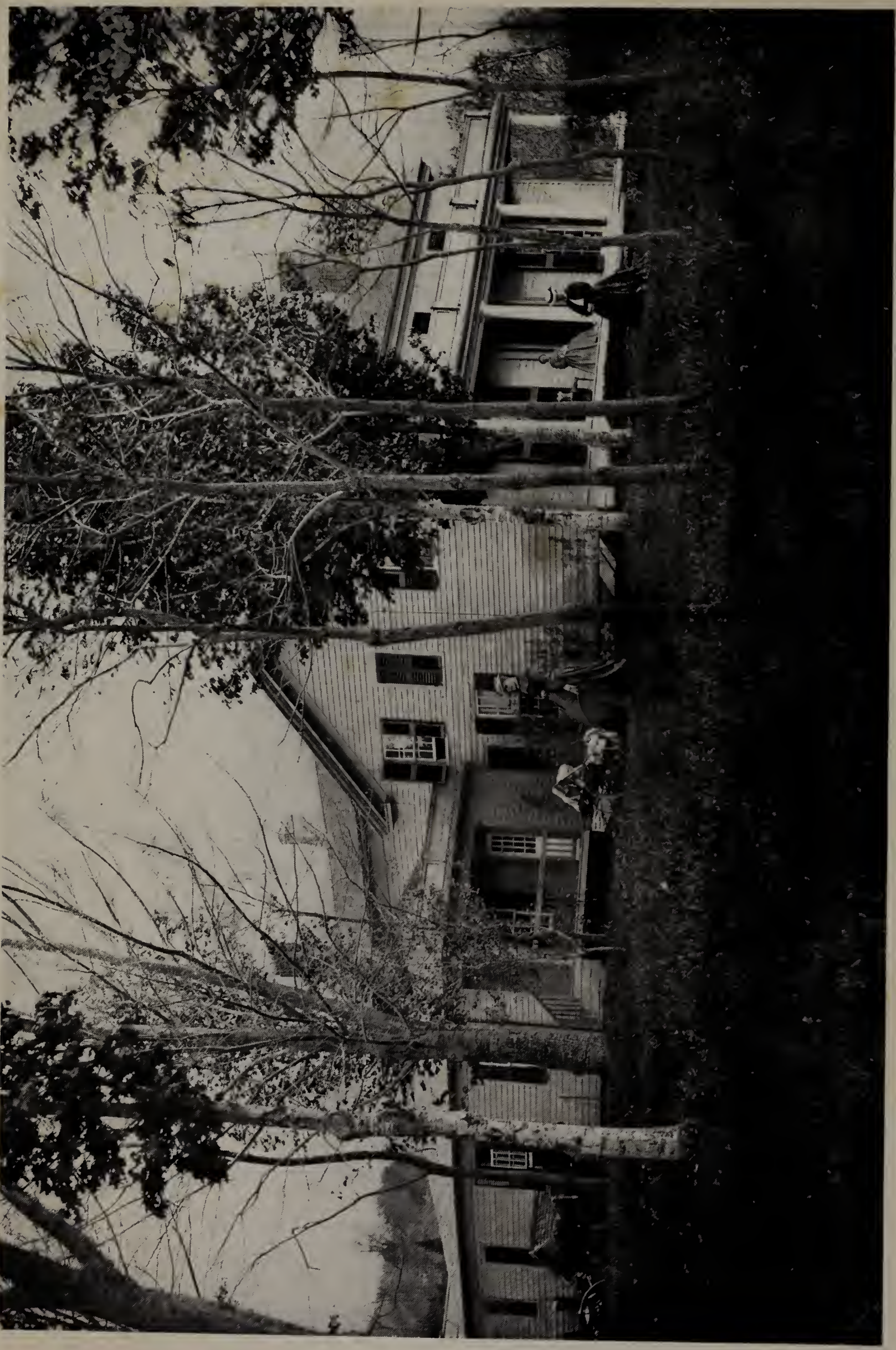












Residence of GENERAL RICHARD HANSEN FRANCHOT, Morris, New York  
*In this house, Nicholas Van Vranken Franchot was born, August 21, 1855*



THE ANCESTORS  
of  
NICHOLAS VAN VRANKEN FRANCHOT  
(Except those of the Franchot name)

Prepared by Alfred LeRoy Becker

Presented to Mr. N.V.V. Franchot  
on his eighty-sixth birthday  
by his son  
Charles Pascal Franchot  
August 21, 1941



# C O N T E N T S

I.	Van Vranken McClelland	1 7
1146058		
II.	Marselis	8
III.	Van Der Volgen Winne	9 11
IV.	Hoffman De Graff Van Epps Lindsay-Glenn	12 14 14 14
V.	Douw	16
VI.	Benson Crispel	19 19
VII.	De Peyster	20
VIII.	Van Rensselaer Quackenbush	22 23
IX.	Schuyler Bancker	24 25
X.	Van Brugge Van Cortlandt Cuyler	26 27 29
XI.	Hansen Low Ten Broeck Van Dam De Meyer	32 34 35 36 37
XII.	Roosevelt	38
XIII.	Provoost Van Borsum Blanchan	40 41 41
XIV.	Van Buren Van Der Pool	42 42
Appendix - Nicholas Van Vranken and the Schenectady Lancasterian School		43
Acknowledgments		47





## TABLE OF PLATES

House of Gen. Richard Franchot at Morris	Frontispiece
Nicholas Van Vranken	2-a
Jannet McClelland Van Vranken	2-b
The daughters of Nicholas and Ann Van Vranken	2-c
Gen. Richard Hansen Franchot	5-a
Ann Van Vranken Franchot	5-b
The Glen-Sanders house at Scotia	14-a, 14-b
Mayor Volckert Petrus Douw	16-a
The Douw homestead, Wolvenhoeck	17-a
Johannes De Peyster	20-a
Jeremias Van Rensselaer	22-a
Van Rensselaer manor house, Watervliet	22-b
Van Rensselaer east manor house, Fort Crailo	22-c
Van Rensselaer house at Claverack	22-d
Conyn-Van Rensselaer house, Columbia County	22-e
Rev. William Linn, D.D.	32-a
Johannes Ten Broeck	35-a
Catryna Van Rensselaer Ten Broeck	35-b
State Street, Albany, 1806, showing Anneke Jans-Dirck Wesselse Ten Broeck house	35-c
Mayor Dirck Ten Broeck	35-d
Genealogical chart	

### Note

In "Stanislas Pascal Franchot" by John Warner Brown (1935) and "Sesqui-Centennial Celebration of the Arrival, in 1790, of Stanislas Pascal Franchot, Immigrant" (1940) are to be found many other family portraits and pictures





## An Open Letter to Mr. Nicholas Van Vranken Franchot

Sir:

From my station as one of the newer Old-Timers, I have been curious to open the doors of memory, genealogy and local history for a view of your ancestry. Here is an American, what is he made of?

Diverse eugenic theories suggest that we may be throw-backs to any one of a hundred ancestors, or, that we are more or less thorough blendings of a myriad of genes. Some would stress environment, particularly home and school. I prefer to accord some influence to all these factors, plus, a certain original spark, an accident of biologic chemistry that has generated something unique.

But enough of theory. This is to be genealogy turned upside down, not a family tree spreading from an immigrant ancestor but ever widening circles of sires and grandsires. I have tried to make the acquaintance of some of them and to place them in their habitat and outline their achievements. To ascertain at least the name of every one of your American ancestors and a score of the European has proved not too difficult a task. Your ancestral strains are about thirty per cent. French, sixty per cent. that special New York mixture of Teutonic strains we call Holland-Dutch and the remainder Scotch.

In this boiling world I hope that what I have to write may give you a little relaxation. If it yields any lesson it will be that in spite of wars and pestilences human life has continuity

With respect,

Alfred LeRoy Becker



# I

## NICHOLAS VAN VRANKEN, II

Schenectady at the turn of the Nineteenth Century - a thriving, ambitious rural center, rival of Albany, with a history nearly as long, touched with tragedy; then, a way stop on the Erie Canal, somnolent, a Sleepy Hollow of the Mohawk, Old Dorp itself, until the magic of electricity gave the place and Union College a new birth: Much of this is remembered by us Old Timers. You may recall signs of the great influence that was Eliphalet Nott. In Revolutionary times a similar force in Schenectady was a native son, Dominie Barent Vrooman, and then Dominie Dirck Romeyn, a noted son of the Dutch Reformed Church.

Your grandfather Nicholas, born in 1791, sat under him in the church and listened to sermons, in Dutch, for Schenectady was conservative and had not yet yielded to the new fangled idea of Dominies Laidlie and Linn at the New York City Collegiate Church of preaching in English regularly.

To Dr. Dirck Romeyn, more than to anyone else, Schenectady owes Union College.

In Nicholas Van Vranken's early infancy, his uncle, Rev. Nicholas Van Vranken, a pupil of Rev. Dirck Romeyn, had been master of Schenectady Academy, precursor of Union, but was called a few years later to Fishkill where he served Dutchess congregations until his untimely death in 1804. Your grandfather's elder sister, Harriet (in Dutch Ariaantje) was the wife of Rev. Herman Vedder, who long served the congregation in Gallatin, Livingston Manor. And his aunt, Susanna Maud Van Vranken, was the first wife of the





Hackensack pastor, the Rev. James Van Campen Romeyn, Dirck Romeyn's nephew and pupil. Her son, Rev. James Romeyn, in Sprague's Annals of the Dutch Reformed Church, eulogizes her most filially. "It was" he says "one of her maxims and practiced by her, 'Let ministers mind their congregations and let their wives take charge of their families.'"

The Van Vrankens had been for some generations honest, prosperous farmer folk. What gave the impetus that projected them into the ministry and into learned professions? We may find the secret a little later when we come to consider the marriages.

The second Nicholas Van Vranken graduated from Union in the class of 1807 at the early age of sixteen. He took his master's degree and as I am informed, finding no record of it, studied for medicine but abandoned practice because of some mischance. This was thirty years before there was an Albany Medical School, so by the practical means of the times he must have studied under a preceptor, one of the physicians of his community, or possibly he studied under one who had he lived would have been his father-in-law, the noted Dr. William McClelland, of Galloway and Edinburgh, Scotland, and Albany. This is not so far fetched a supposition as it might seem for did not Dr. McClelland live behind the unhandsome facade of an Albany house on North Pearl Street that was next door to the similarly forbidding house occupied by one who then was the Albany Dutch Reformed Dominie, Rev. John Brodhead Romeyn, Dirck's son? Dr. James Eights, collaterally an ancestor of mine, sketched these Albany houses and his drawings are preserved at the Albany Institute and Historical Society. Perhaps you can tell me where Nicholas







NICHOLAS VAN VRANKEN





MRS. JANNET McCLELLAND VAN VRANKEN







THE DAUGHTERS OF MR. AND MRS. NICHOLAS VAN VRANKEN

MARY

ANN  
(Mrs. Richard Franchot)

SARAH  
Charles Franchot)

MARGARET  
(Mrs. Vedder)

KATHARINE  
(Mrs. Hillhouse)



studied medicine, from your knowledge of the family traditions.

In 1818 Nicholas Van Vranken inaugurated the Schenectady Lancaster School as its master, and carried it on for fifteen years with marked success. In the Appendix will be found an account of Joseph Lancaster and his system of pedagogy, and of Nicholas Van Vranken's really notable service to the youth of his city. In 1833 he declined reappointment as master and became a merchant of groceries and dry goods, at 51 State Street. When, in 1854, Schenectady adopted the free public school system, he was elected the first president of the board of education, and continued on the board until his death, in 1864.

His portrait shows a sparkle in the eye betokening a man of keen and happy wit. His wife, the estimable Jannet McClelland, and their five lovely daughters, must have helped in the making of this amiable countenance. Here we see the family of seven, of almost a century ago, among them Ann, your sweet faced, youthful mother. They seem to live again.

Mrs. Jannet Van Vranken was a daughter of the dean of the Albany medical profession, Dr. William McClelland. Born in Wigtownshire, Galloway, Scotland, he was educated in Edinburgh. His name is not, however, to be found on the published roster of medical students at the University. Coming to Albany in the 1790's he quickly gained through his superior education and attainments a place at the head of the dozen or so physicians then practicing in Albany and the vicinity. He founded and was president of the Albany County Medical Society and was also president of the New York State Medical





Society, no mean distinction. A writer of annals of the Albany medical profession hints that his social habits undermined his health and brought about his early death. He died in 1812, at the age of 44. We cannot be unmindful, however, that on his death the members of the State Medical Society resolved to wear sash on their arms for the period of thirty days.

Another son-in-law of Dr. McClelland and doubly related to you was Schenectady County Judge Archibald Laidlie Linn. He served also as mayor, member of assembly and member of congress. This was, of course, the "Uncle Laidley" of Stanislas Pascal Franchot's letter to his son. Judge Linn also tried his hand at editing a newspaper and lecturing on temperance. He was the youngest son of the great William Linn, D. D., minister of the Collegiate Church of New York City, by his third and last marriage, to Helena Low Hansen, the widow of your great grandfather Derrick Hansen of Greenbush. Dr. Linn was chosen by the trustees to succeed Eliphalet Mott as president of Union College. Mott was then a young man and it is to be supposed that the trustees thought an older man more suitable. However Dr. Linn died before he could assume office and Mott went on to be considered one of our greatest educators. Dr. Linn was in his own right a lion. The Collegiate Church in its centenary history exhibits his imposing portrait and quotes his eloquent plea for interdenominational tolerance. He named his son, Judge Linn, for his pulpit predecessor, the gentle Scotch dominie, Archibald Laidlie. Dr. Laidlie, as it happens, married a Hoffman and was, in fact, by marriage, the great uncle of Judge Linn's and Nicholas Van Vranken's mother-in-law, Anna Hoffman McClelland.

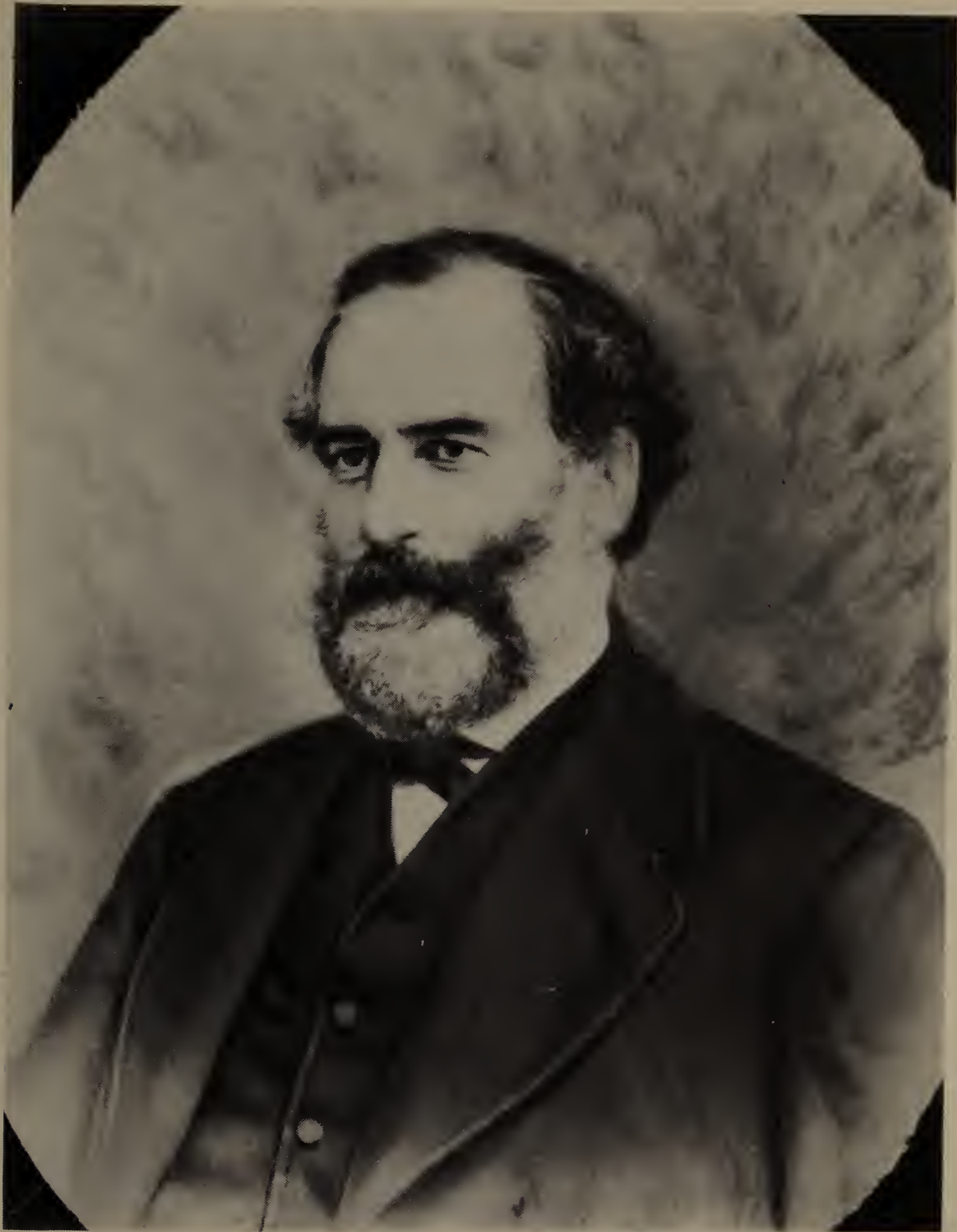


You have, you see, many ministerial connections, though  
'nary a one in the direct line.

Nicholas Van Vranken's father, Maus, was a minute man  
in the Revolutionary war, a pensioner. He served in the 1777  
campaign around Saratoga.







GENERAL RICHARD HANSEN FRANCHOT





ANN VAN VRANKEN FRANCHOT





I now give the details of the Van Vranken and McClelland lines.

Van Vranken

CLAES, of Frankenburg  
(Vranken) Netherlands

His son  
RYCKERT CLAESE  
Came to New Netherland  
about 1660. His descend-  
ants took the name of  
VAN VRANKEN (from Vranken)

He married  
HILLEGONDA : : : : :

Their son  
MAAS (Maus) Van Vranken (I)  
Lived on the family acres  
at Niskayuna, where there  
are Van Vrankens still.  
Born October 5, 1687 (or 8)  
Died March 1778

Married  
ANNA WINNE \*

Their son  
MAAS VAN VRANKEN (II)  
Born October 18, 1721  
Died July 24, 1787  
Married April 15, 1750  
ARIAANTJE VAN DER VOLGEN \*  
They lived in or near  
Schenectady

Among their children  
(REV.) NICHOLAS VAN VRANKEN  
Born May 24, 1762  
Died May 20, 1804  
He had a son Rev. Samuel  
Alexander Van Vranken who  
was a distinguished theo-  
logian. From him was des-  
cended Rev. Samuel Van Vran-  
ken Holmes of Buffalo

SUSANNA MAUD VAN  
VRANKEN  
The wife of Rev. James  
Van Campen Romeyn

S VAN VRANKEN (III)  
n May 23, 1756  
d July 1, 1833  
ried August 16, 1778  
AH MARSELIS \*  
Their son  
HOLAS VAN VRANKEN  
n April 7, 1791  
d January 29, 1864  
ried December 16, 1819  
NET McCLELLAND \*

heir daughter was  
VAN VRANKEN  
wife of GENERAL RICHARD HANSEN FRANCHOT

ata on sheets to follow



## McClelland

In wartime it has seemed impractical to correspond with Scotland in an effort to trace the ancestry of Dr. William McClelland. When he came to America, in the early 1790's, he brought with him the family bible of his father, Alexander McClelland. In the published index to the testaments (wills) in the Commissariat (probate office) of Wigtown, Scotland, I found, under date of 1790, mention of the warrant (decree of probate) on the testament of "Alexander McClelland, in Borland of Luce Park." The Park of Luce was at the mouth of Luce River, which empties into the Bay of Luce, indenting the southern shore of Galloway, about ten miles west of Wigtown. I think this Alexander may well have been Dr. William's father, and his death the occasion of the son coming to America.

The McClellands of Wigtownshire have for a long time carefully distinguished themselves from the McClellans of Kirkcudbright by the use of the final "d". At Bladnoch, a suburb of Wigtown, was the Bladnoch distillery of the McClelland family. In times gone by it was a good producer of pot-still Scotch whiskey. This distillery was the foundation of the fortune of the late Sir Peter Hannay McClelland K.B.E., of London, born in 1856; South American and Liverpool merchant trader and member of the firm of Duncan, Fox & Co. Sir Peter was also chairman of the British Union Oil Co., Ltd.,





and a director of the British Mexican Petroleum Co., Ltd.  
His widow, Lady Aurora Violet Amelia (Williamson) McClelland,  
still lived in 1940, in the family mansion on Eaton Square,  
the swankiest of the swank in London. How close the relation-  
ship may be between Dr. William's father, Alexander, and the  
brothers John and Thomas who started the Bladnoch distillery  
in 1817, I have no means of knowing at present. That there  
was relationship seems extremely probable. When peace comes  
it might be interesting to correspond with members of the  
family.

ALEXANDER McCLELLAND  
of Wigtownshire, in Galloway  
Married : : : : : : :

    Their son  
WILLIAM McCLELLAND (M.D.)  
Born April 5, 1768  
in Galloway  
Died January 29, 1812  
in Albany, New York  
Married       about 1797  
ANNA HOFFMAN \*  
Widow of Barent Ten Eyck  
    Among their  
    children were

JANNET McCLELLAND  
Born October 9, 1798  
in Albany  
Died August 19, 1882  
Married  
NICHOLAS VAN VRANKEN  
the grandfather of  
NICHOLAS VAN VRANKEN FRANCHOT

MARY McCLELLAND  
Born November 8, 1808  
Died  
Married January 31, 1826  
ARCHIBALD LAIDLIE LINN  
who was the youngest son of  
REV. WILLIAM LINN, D.D.  
by his (third) marriage, to  
HELENA (LOW) HANSEN  
the widow of  
DERRICK HANSEN  
the great grandparents of  
NICHOLAS VAN VRANKEN FRANCHOT



## II

### MARSELIS

On page 6 it was noted that the wife of Maus Van Vranken and her of Nicholas Van Vranken II was Sarah Marselis. This family an old established one in Schenectady. It took its surname from Christian name of the first settler.

MARSELIS JANSEN from Gelderland  
Died about 1690-1700  
Married  
ANNETJE GERRITS  
daughter of  
GERRIT REYERSE and  
ANNETJE JANS  
who were married April 11, 1665  
(New York Dutch Ref. Ch.)  
he being the son of  
REYER ELBERTSE and  
MARITJE BARENTS  
widow of Gerrit Van Schaick  
A son of Marselis  
and Annetje was  
AHASUERUS MARSELIS  
Born  
Married December 8, 1697  
(Albany Dutch Ref. Ch.)  
SARA HEEMSTRAAT  
daughter of  
TAKEL HEEMSTRAAT and  
MARITJE : : : : :  
Two sons of  
Ahasuerus were

JOHANNES MARSELIS  
Bapt. June 26, 1698  
(Albany Dutch Ref. Ch.)  
Married January 12, 1725  
(Schenectady Du. Ref. Ch.)  
SARA DE GRAFF \*

Their son  
CLAES MARSELIS - - - - -  
Born  
Died 1766  
Drowned in the  
Mohawk River

DIRK MARSELIS  
Bapt. January 5, 1700  
(Albany Dutch Ref. Ch.)  
Married July 29, 1726  
(Schenectady Du. Ref. Ch.)  
LYSBET VAN EPPS \*

Their daughter  
HELENA MARSELIS  
Bapt. March 4, 1732/3  
(Schenectady Dutch  
Ref. Ch.)

Their daughter  
SARAH MARSELIS  
Bapt. April 9, 1758  
(Schenectady Dutch Ref. Ch.)  
Died April 1, 1838  
Married  
MAUS VAN VRANKEN (III)





### III

#### ARIAANTJE AND LAURENS VAN DER VOLGEN

On page 6 appears the name of Ariaantje (called Harriet) Van der Volgen, mother of Maus Van Vranken, the Revolutionary soldier, Rev. Nicholas Van Vranken and Susanna Maud, the wife of Rev. James Van Campon Romeyn. Ariaantje's husband, Maas (II), was but a Schenectady shoemaker, yet in the next generation and the third we meet with scholars and eminent clergymen. The suggestion of introduction of a new hereditary strain is striking. The facts seem to bear out the inference.

Ariaantje's son and father span the century between the Revolutionary War and the Schenectady massacre of 1690. She was born rather late in the life of her father, Laurens Claese Van der Volgen. During the assault of midwinter 1690 by the French and Indians, Laurens, a young lad, was taken captive and dwelt among the Indians for some years. He learnt the Iroquois dialects, and, I believe, some measure of French. The quickness of his wits was often attested by his contemporaries. After his release he was appointed Commissioner of Indian Affairs and official interpreter. Nothing called for more delicacy in those days, or was better managed by the local government, than diplomatic relations with the Indian tribes. A policy of conciliation was followed by the Dutch and later by the English which in time weaned away the powerful Iroquois from French allegiance and was instrumental in the extinction of French sovereignty in the French and Indian War. When the Revolution came the adherence of the Iroquois to their friends the English caused the colonists great pain and loss. Just before 1690,



However, the Iroquois were less attached to the Dutch-English in New York and the so-called French Indians of the St. Lawrence region were their bitter enemies and the close allies and mercenaries of the French.

The Indian administrators of New Netherland and New York should not be forgotten, beginning with Sebastian Crol and Arent van Curler, agents of Kiliaen Van Rensselaer at Fort Orange, then after the English conquest Peter Schuyler and Laurens Van der Volgen, and lastly, the greatest of them all Sir William Johnson. Nor should we forget the influence of the Jesuit missionaries, many of them martyrs, Jogues, Lalemant and the rest. The keynote of New York colonial history was Indian policy, and on that policy Laurens Van der Volgen left his mark through many years.

#### Van der Volgen

CLAES LAURENSE from Purmerend  
was the first settler. He

Married

MARITIE SWART, daughter of  
TEUNIS CORNELISE SWART (who  
died about 1680) and

Married

Elizabeth Van Der Linde

The descendants of Claes and

Maritie took the name of

Van der Volgen.

Their son

LAURENS CLAESE VAN DER VOLGEN

Born

Died about 1742

Married Geertruy, daughter of  
Claes Van Petten. She having  
died, he

Married (second)

SUSANNA WELLEVEN

September 18, 1722

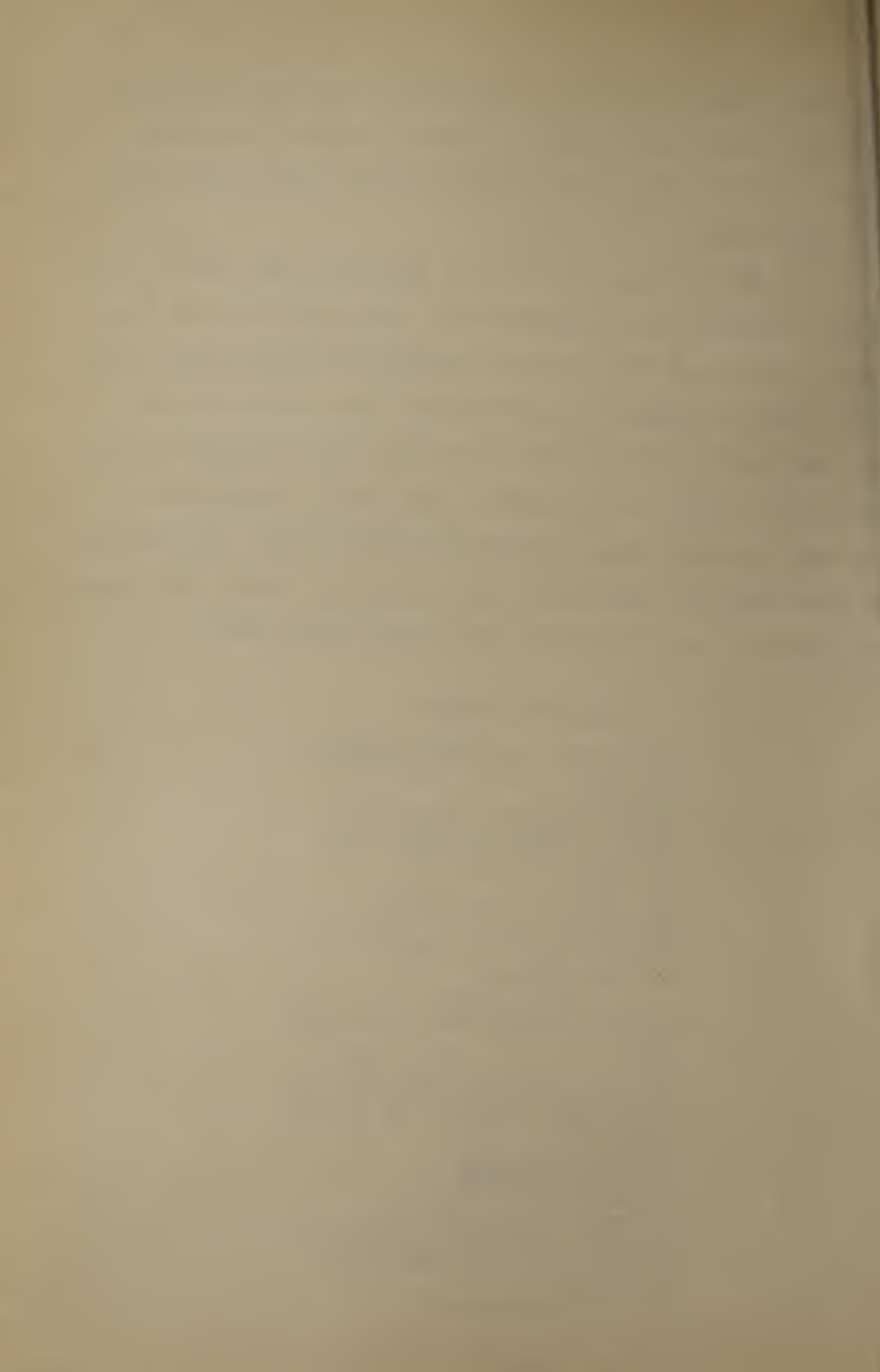
(Schenectady Du.Ref.Ch.)

She was, I think, a Palatine,  
and the name may have been

WOLLWEBER.

(continued)







Van der Volgen  
(continued)

The daughter of  
Laurens Claese and  
Susanna Van der Volgen  
ARIAANTJE VAN DER VOLGEN  
Born July 11, 1727  
Died  
Married April 15, 1750  
MAAS VAN VRANKEN (II)

Requiescat in pace Ariaantje Van Vranken.

History does not record achievements such as hers except in  
king note of her children and grandchildren. Not a few had dis-  
tinguished careers. I have no doubt she was a great woman.

-----O-----

The Winne Family

On page 6 was noted the marriage of Maas Van Vranken (I)  
Anna Winne. The Winne line is as follows:

PIERRE WINNE (in Dutch PIETER)  
A Fleming  
from the ancient City of Ghent  
Married  
TANNATJE ADAMS  
from Leeuwarden in Friesland  
Their son  
ADAM WINNE  
ropemaker of Albany  
Married  
ANNA LOOKERMANS  
daughter of  
JACOB JANSE LOOKERMANS  
Their daughter  
ANNA WINNE  
Baptized October 7, 1688  
(Albany Dutch Ref. Ch.)  
Married  
MAAS VAN VRANKEN (I)



## IV

### HOFFMAN

The Hoffman genealogy is contained in one of the best of genealogies of Holland-Dutch families (if such it may be called, the family was of Swedish-Finnish origin, coming from Reval, the Gulf of Finland). I shall copy the lineage from the book, with a few additions. First, however, I wish to make note that the family was descended from an army officer, enjoyed a higher social rank than the ordinary non-gentry, and maintained itself well through generations. In the Colony of New York there was no nobility scarcely even a knight, except for the royal governors. The so-called lords of manors, Van Rensselaer, Livingston, Van Cortlandt, Killipse, provided the aristocratic spirit and proved their clansmanship by intermarrying over and over again. Many of the settlers of the patroonships were of peasant origin. Other settlers took up at an early date farms in a dangerously exposed situation, but, not beyond the limits of Rensselaerswyck. Such were the very early settlements of Niskayuna, made by the Van Vrankens and others who were unwilling to be Van Rensselaer tenants, likewise at Halfmoon in Saratoga County and at Freehold (a slogan in the name) in Bergen County. Many of these families were never considered socially good enough to marry with the manor families. Not so such families as Hoffman, Douw, Low; from the first settlers these families were the eligible upper-middle class.





The Ancestry of Anna Hoffman McClelland

MARTINES HERMANSZ HOFFMAN

Born about 1625  
at Reval in the Gulf of Finland  
Came to New Netherland  
about 1657

Married May 16, 1664  
(N.Y.Dutch Ref.Ch.)  
EMMERENTJE daughter of  
CLAES DE WITT

Their son

NICHOLAS HOFFMAN

Born at Kingston about 1680  
Died December 31, 1750  
Married 1705 (banns December  
30, 1704 Kingston Du.Ref.Ch.)  
JANNETJE CRISPEL \*

Their son

(COL.) MARTINES HOFFMAN

He was an early and entirely  
authentic Squire of Red Hook.

Born February 6, 1706/7  
Died August 29, 1772  
Married October 19, 1733  
Tryntje Benson \*

Their son

HARMANUS HOFFMAN

Born June 3, 1745  
Died September 1, 1829  
Married

CATHARINE DOUW \*\*

Their daughter

ANNA HOFFMAN

Born January 29, 1774  
Bapt. February 6, 1774  
(Upper Red Hook Du.Ref.Ch.)  
Died April 21, 1813 (Albany  
cemetery inscription, Presb.Ch.)  
Married (1st) July 18, 1790  
Barent Tobias Ten Eyck, merchant  
of Albany.

Married (2nd) about 1797

WILLIAM McCLELLAND, M.D.

Their daughter

MARY HOFFMAN

Married  
REV. ARCHIBALD LAIDLIE, D.D.

----0----

\*\* Catharine Douw Hoffman was a daughter of Mayor Volckert  
Petrus Douw of Albany, a name familiar to Franchot genealogy.  
Before taking up the \* lines on this page we will complete those  
on page 8 in the Marselis lines.



## Ancestry of Sara De Graff

ANDRIES DE GRAFF

Married

: : : : : : : :

Their son

CLAES DE GRAFF

Married

ELIZABETH BROUWER

Born

Died November 18, 1723

Daughter of

WILLEM BROUWER

who died 1668 at Albany, and

ELIZABETH DRINCKVELDT, his wife

The daughter of Claes

and Elizabeth De Graff

SARA DE GRAFF

Bapt. January 8, 1696

(Schenectady Dutch Ref. Ch.)

Married

CLAES MARSELIS

---O---

## Ancestry of Lisbet Van Epps

VAN EPPS  
ed  
IE DAMEN  
ter of  
AMSEN DAMEN  
eir son  
NES VAN EPPS  
in the  
ectady  
cre February  
ed  
BETH JANS  
  
oo probably  
her life in  
massacre

ALEXANDER LINDSAY GLEN  
a Scotsman who served the  
Netherlands and was  
known to the Dutch as  
SANDER LEENDERTSEN GLEN  
The first settler of Scotia  
Born about 1610-15  
Died November 13, 1685  
Married  
CATALYN DUNCAN  
Born  
Died August 12, 1684  
Their son  
JOHN GLENN---Married-----  
Born May 2, 1671  
November 5, 1648  
Died  
November 6, 1731

PHILIPPE DU TRIEUX (TRUAX)  
Born about 1586-8 at  
Roubaix, in Flanders  
Died about 1649-53 at  
New Amsterdam  
Married 1st, 1615 at  
Amsterdam  
JACQUEMINE NOIRET  
then 22 years of age  
daughter of  
ARNOULD NOIRET and  
BARBE DU CHESNE  
Their daughter  
MARIE DU TRIEUX  
Bapt. April 5, 1617  
(Walloon Church, Leiden)  
Married 2nd (Banns, New  
Amsterdam Dutch Ref. Ch.)  
February 20, 1650  
JAN PEECK  
Their daughter  
ANNA PEECK  
Bapt. October 15, 1651  
(New Amsterdam Dutch  
Ref. Ch.)  
Died  
December 19, 1689 (or 90)

(continued)









"SCOTIA."  
The Glen-Sanders Residence. Built in 1713.



SANDERS-GLEN SCOTIA HOMESTEAD.

One of the oldest houses in Albany county in use in 1906 and occupied by the Sanders family for two centuries. It was built on the bank of the Mohawk at Scotia, nearly opposite Schenectady. by Alexander Glen, in 1713. Here hangs the original painting of Mayor Sanders.





Van Epps  
(continued)

The son of Johannes  
and Elizabeth Van Epps  
J.N BAPTIST VAN EPPS--married--  
Born 1673 July 9,  
Died 1699  
In the Schenectady  
mid of February 10,  
1690, he was carried  
away to Canada. There  
after a time he was  
baptized a Catholic  
but when released he  
resumed his Calvinist  
allegiance. He often  
served as Indian inter-  
preter.

Glenn  
(continued)

The daughter of John  
and Anna Glenn  
HELENA GLENN  
Born November 2, 1681  
Died

Their daughter  
LYSBET VAN EPPS  
Bapt. May 14, 1704  
(Schenectady Du.Ref.Ch.)  
Married  
DIRK MARSELIS

Captain John Glenn was the builder and first owner of  
the well known Mohawk Valley landmark, the Glenn-Sanders mansion at  
Cotia. It is a fine relic of colonial times, now maintained as  
museum.



## THE DOUW ANCESTRY

On page 13 I have recorded that Catharine, the daughter of  
 or Volckert P. Douw of Albany, married Harmanus Hoffman of Red  
 k. As Mayor Douw was also the grandfather of Volckert P. Douw  
 married Helen Louisa Franchot \* and the father of Rachel, wife  
 Col. Henry I. Van Rensselaer of Claverack, father of the Morris  
 etler, he is triply a Franchot ancestor.

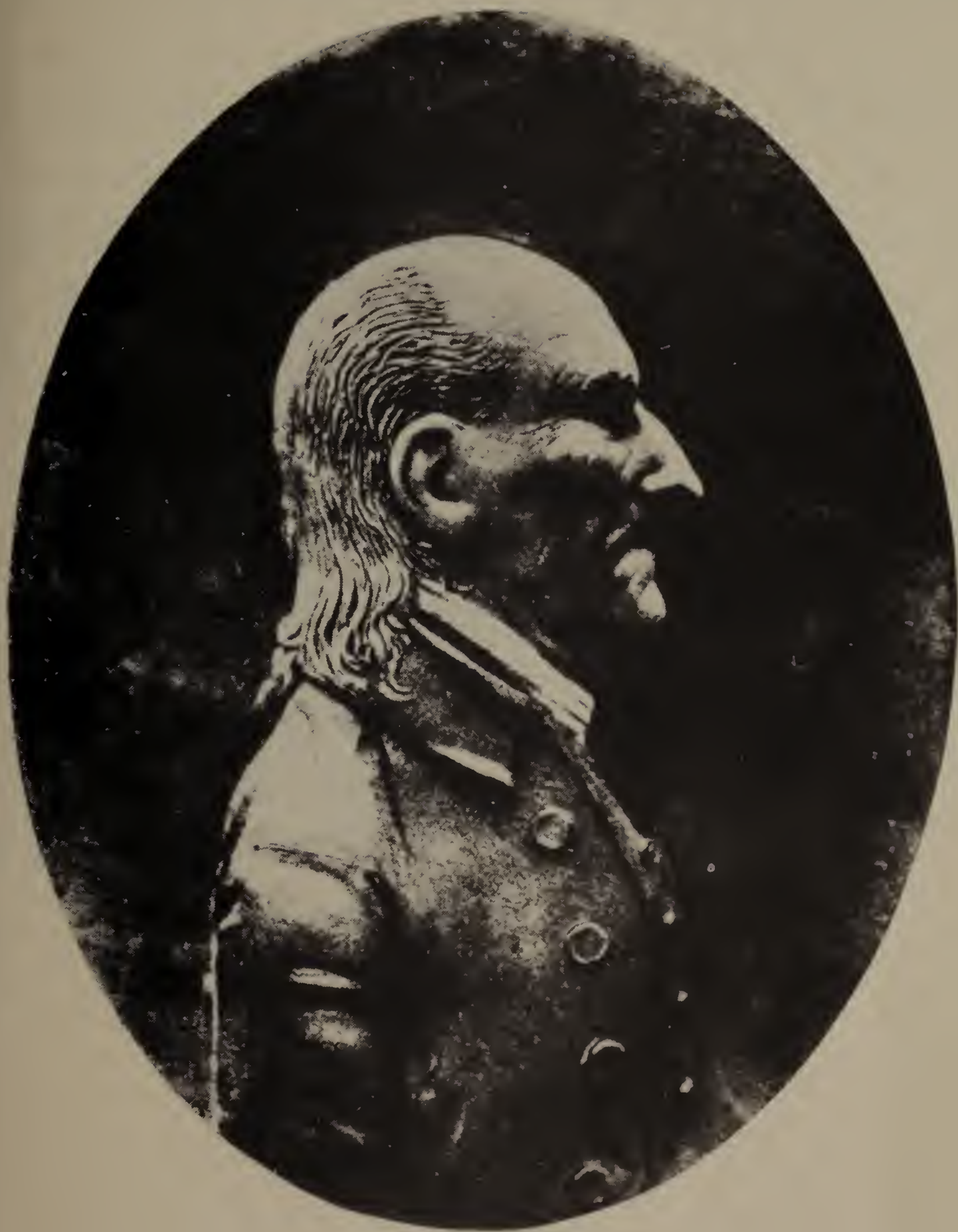
The mayoralty was not his sole distinction. He was also recor-  
 e, assistant (lay) judge of common pleas, Indian Commissioner,  
 ber of the Albany Committee of Safety and vice president of the  
 vincial Congress. His diplomatic dealings with the Indians led  
 the usual exchange of complimentary gifts, some of which have  
 en preserved in the family. In the family home at Wolvenhook,  
 ng a landmark south of Greenbush, there was displayed a striking  
 k medallion portrait of the mayor. It is reproduced in Cuyler  
 molds' Albany Chronicles, opp. page 204. At last accounts it  
 s in the estate of the late J. Townsend Lansing. Through his  
 rriage to Anna De Peyster, Mayor Douw became allied to a family  
 at ranked by virtue of lineage and financial worth at the social  
 nnacle of colonial New York. From a recent publication I shall  
 ace its line to the early years of the fourteenth century.

The immigrant ancestor, Captain Volckert Janse Douw, was by  
 family tradition a Mennonite. The family was from Leeuwarden, cap-  
 al of Friesland, but the Mennonites were restricted in freedom

I write the name Helen Louisa, not Helen Louis as it appears  
 in the Franchot genealogy, because Volckert P. Douw wrote it Helen  
 Louisa in the family bible. See the bible record as contributed  
 by George Douglas Miller to New Eng.Hist.& Gene.Reg. v. 51, p.337.







25. VOLCKERT PETRUS DOUW.

1761-1770.

From a wax medallion owned in 1904 by Mr. J. Townsend Lansing of Albany.



religious worship in the Netherlands, so Jan Douw took his family to tapelholm, near Frederickstad, Schleswig-Holstein, whence they came to New Netherland. Volckert Janse Douw, although, it is said, of a strongly pacifistic Mennonite persuasion, held a commission as captain in the army of the Netherlands. The family traditions might require some reconciliation. In America Captain Douw served as an Indian Commissioner and was a successful trader and land speculator.

Through the Douws you can trace long lines of pre-immigration ancestry, Van Rensselaer, De Peyster, Cuyler. I reproduce these names from the publications where they have appeared, omitting the female branches which are in some cases also in print.

According to the family tradition, probably correct, Hendrick Van Rensselaer, first proprietor of the Southern or Claverack manor and occupant of Fort Crailo, in the southern part of the present City of Albany, presented each of his sons-in-law with a homestead. One of these was the old house on the Wolves' Point, not far from Fort Crailo, given with the adjacent lands to Petrus and Anna (Van Rensselaer) Douw.







PLATE 22

*House of Retrus Douw.*

Front portion built about 1724 in a style typical of Dutch construction in brick in Albany County at that date. Rear wing with gambrel roof presumably an addition before 1800. House torn down about 1835—1840. It stood on *Wolven Hoeck* (Wolves' Point) on the east shore of the Hudson, opposite Albany. The plate was made from a photograph (of a painting) obtained through the courtesy of Charles G. Douw of Scotia, New York.



The Douw line:

JAN DOUW  
resided at Leeuwarden and at  
Stapelholm, Schleswig-Holstein  
Married

: : : : : : : : : : : :

Among their children

(CAPT.) VOLCKERT DOUW  
Born  
Died 1681  
Married April 19, 1650  
DOROTHY JANS from  
Breestede, near Fred-  
crickstad, Schleswig-  
Holstein

ELIZABETH DOUW  
Married  
JOHANNES VAN EPPS  
of Schenectady, see p.14

Their son

JONAS DOUW  
Born  
Died October 7, 1736  
Married (1st), November 14, 1683  
MAGDALENA QUACKENBUSH \*

Their son

PETRUS DOUW  
Bapt. May 8, 1692  
(Albany Dutch Ref. Ch.)  
Died August 21, 1775  
Married October 8, 1717  
ANNA VAN RENSSELAER \*

Their son

VOLCKERT PETRUS DOUW  
Born March 23, 1720  
Died March 20, 1801  
Married May 20, 1742  
ANNA DE PEYSTER \*

Among their children were

ACHEL DOUW  
Born Feb. 8, 1744/5  
Married Col. Henry I.  
van Rensselaer of  
Albany

CATHARINE DOUW  
Born November 6, 1751  
Died October 25, 1775  
Married  
HARMANUS HOFFMAN

JOHANNES DE PEYSTER  
DOUW  
Born Jan. 20, 1756  
Father of Volckert P.  
Douw who married  
Helen Louisa Franchot





# VI

BENSON

CRISPEL

## The Ancestry of Tryntje Benson Hoffman:

JAN ROOS, of Haarlem, Netherlands

Married

MARIE VIGNE

She married, 2nd,

Abraham Isaacse Verplanck (see page 24)

Their son

GERRIT ROOS

Born in Haarlem

Married, 1st,

Banns, New Amst. Du.Ref.Ch.)

December 31, 1651

AELTJE LAMBERTS, from Utrecht

He married, 2nd, 1659

Tryntje Arents

The son of Gerrit

and Aeltje Roos

JOHANNES ROOS

Bapt. November 5, 1656

New Amst. Du.Ref.Ch.)

Died 1695, at Albany

Married

CORNELIA : : : : : : :

Their daughter

CORNELIA ROOS---married---ROBERT BENSON

Bapt. March 14, Bapt. January 1, 1686

May 6, 1688 1709 (N.Y.Dutch Ref.Ch.)

Albany Du.Ref.Ch.) Died 1715

Died

Their daughter

TRYNTJE BENSON

Married

(COL.) MARTINES HOFFMAN

---O---

## The Ancestry of Jannetje Crispel Hoffman:

ANTOINE CRISPEL, Huguenot, from Artois

Married, 2nd,

PETRONELLA LA MAN (LAMONT-?)

Their daughter

JEANNE CRISPEL

Bapt. February 7, 1686

(Kingston Dutch Ref. Ch.)

Died February 14, 1752

Married

NICHOLAS HOFFMAN

ABRAHAM VAN DEUSEN

Married

: : : : : :

Their son

MATTHEW VAN DEUSEN

Married

HELENA ROBERTS

Their daughter

TRYNTJE VAN DEUSEN

SAMSON BENSON---married---TRYNTJE VAN DEUSEN

Born July 4, 1652

Their son

ROBERT BENSON

Bapt. January 1, 1686

(N.Y.Dutch Ref.Ch.)

Died 1715



## VII

### DE PEYSTER

The ancient lineage of DePeyster is found in the New York Genealogical & Biographical Record for 1939.

The first known, Jean De Peyster of Ghent, dates to 1322.

- I- JEAN DE PEYSTER  
Died about 1345  
Married  
CATHERINE : : :
- II- JEAN DE PEYSTER  
Died 1368  
Married  
ELIZABETH DE GROOTE
- III- JEAN DE PEYSTER
- IV- JEAN DE PEYSTER  
Died 1432
- V- GUILLAUME DE PEYSTER  
Died 1452  
Married  
Dame CATHERINE DE GRUUTERE  
daughter of BAUDOUIN DE GRUUTERE
- VI OSTE DE PEYSTER  
Born 1442  
Died 1520  
Married  
CATHERINE VOLPOT
- VII- JOSSE DE PEYSTER  
Born about 1475  
Married  
CATHERINE SANGUEWYN
- VIII- JOSSE DE PEYSTER  
Born 1515  
Died 1587  
Married  
ELIZABETH DANCKAERT
- IX- JOSSE DE PEYSTER  
Born 1554  
Married  
JOANNA VAN DE VOORDE







16. JOHANNES DE PEYSTER.

1729-31; 1732-33; 1741-42.

From an oil painting made in 1718, owned in 1904 by his great-great-grandson, Charles Gibbons Douw, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.



De Peyster continued:

- X- JOHANNES DE PEYSTER  
Born 1595 at Ghent  
Died 1648 at Haarlem  
Married  
JOSINE MARTSANS
- XI- JOHANNES DE PEYSTER  
Born April 28, 1626 at Haarlem  
Died  
Married December 17, 1651  
at New Amsterdam  
CORNELIA LUBBERTS VAN DER ELBURCH  
Bapt. September 15, 1632  
(Haarlem, Netherlands, Dutch Ref. Ch.)
- XII- JOHANNES DE PEYSTER  
Born September 21, 1666  
Died September 25, 1711  
Married October 20, 1688  
ANNA BANCKER \*
- XIII- JOHANNES DE PEYSTER  
Mayor of Albany  
Born January 10, 1693/4  
Died February 27, 1789  
Married November 24, 1715  
ANNA SCHUYLER \*
- XIV- ANNA DE PEYSTER  
Born March 28, 1723  
Died June 14, 1794  
Married May 20, 1742  
(Mayor) VOLCKERT PETRUS DOUW

Note.- You appear to be of the nineteenth generation from  
the first Jean de Peistere of Ghent.





## VIII

### VAN RENSSELAER

The European lineage of Van Rensselaer is to be found in the article by W.J.Hoffman in the New York Genealogical & Biographical Record for 1940. The line begins in the Fifteenth Century.

- I- OBERT (EGBERT) VAN RENSELER
- II- WOLTER VAN RENSELER  
Married  
NELLE VAN NORDEN
- III- HENDRICK VAN RENSELER
- IV- JOHAN VAN RENSELER  
Born about 1500  
Married  
DERICA VAN LUXOEL
- V- KILIAEN VAN RENSSELAER  
Married  
NELLE CLAES VAN WENCKUM
- VI- HENDRICK VAN RENSSELAER  
Died January 6, 1602 at Ostende  
Married  
MARIE PAFRAET
- VII- KILIAEN VAN RENSSELAER  
The first patroon of Rensselaerswyck  
Born about 1585 at Hasselt  
Died October 1643 at Amsterdam  
(Buried October 7, Oude Kerk)  
Married (1st) July 23, 1616  
Hillegonda Van Byler  
Died December 1626  
(Buried January 1, 1627, Oude Kerk)  
Married (2nd) December 14, 1627  
ANNA VAN WELY  
Died September 18, 1670
- VIII- JEREMIAS VAN RENSSELAER  
Director and resident of Rensselaerswyck





JEREMIAS VAN RENSSELAER, 1ST  
*From a portrait in the possession of Mrs. Benjamin W. Arnold*

17

Director of Rensselaerswyck

22-a







PLATE 47

*House called Watervliet.*

Built by Jeremias Van Rensselaer, 1669, on the Troy road north of Albany. Torn down about 1839. It was the residence of the successive directors and patroons of Rensselaerswyck and of the lords of Rensselaer manor from 1669 to 1765. Sketched by Francis Pruyn of Albany just before being razed. Important as a standard with which to compare other dwellings in Albany County for the approximate period of 1670—1750. The plate was made from a photograph of Francis Pruyn's sketch taken by the late Augustus Pruyn of Albany.







FORT CRAILO

15

Rensselaer, New York

The residence of Hendrick Van Rensselaer







PLATE 48

*Van Rensselaer House at Claverack (Klaver Rak),*

Columbia County. Often referred to as 'the lower manor house'. Built in several parts and of no established type of architecture. Significant structurally as an illustration of haphazard growth. Has a long social history.

165

In part probably built by Hendrick Van Rensselaer and occupied by his children and grandchildren







PLATE 20

*The Conyn-Van Rensselaer House*

in Columbia County consists of a primitive rear wing of stone, of unknown date, and a main front portion of brick, erected in 1766. Modern trim destroys the period character of the exterior. The plate illustrates the manner in which earlier and later structures were combined to form one dwelling.

137

The front part probably built by Col. Henry I. Van Rensselaer; occupied by one of his sons





VAN RENSSELAER

(Continued)

VIII- JEREMIAS VAN RENSSELAER  
Born 1632-3 at Amsterdam  
Died October 12, 1674  
Married July 12, 1662  
MARIA VAN CORTLANDT \*

IX- HENDRICK VAN RENSSELAER  
Born October 23, 1667  
Died July 4, 1740  
Married March 19, 1689  
CATHARINA VAN BRUGGE \*

Among their children

- CATARINA VAN RENSSELAER  
Born Jan. 1, 1692  
Married Dec. 29, 1714  
JOHANNES TEN BROECK

X- ANNA VAN RENSSELAER  
Born Jan. 26, 1696  
Died April 3, 1756  
Married  
PETRUS DOUW

X- (COL.) JOHANNES  
VAN RENSSELAER  
Born Feb. 11, 1708  
Died Feb. 22, 1783  
Married (1st) Jan. 3, 1734  
ANGELICA LIVINGSTON  
Married (2nd) GERTRUDE  
VAN CORTLANDT

XI- (COL.) HENRY I.  
VAN RENSSELAER  
Born Oct. 23, 1742  
Died March 22, 1814  
Married Nov. 16, 1765  
RACHEL DOUW

They were the parents of

XII- ROBERT and XII- VOLCKERT PETER VAN RENSSELAER  
The Morris settler

- - - -0- - - -

The ancestry of Magdalena Quackenbush Douw:

PIETER QUACKENBUSH  
from Oostgeest, near Leiden  
Married  
MARTJE : : : : :  
Their daughter  
MAGDALENA QUACKENBUSH  
Married  
JONAS DOUW



IX

SCHUYLER      BANCKER

The Ancestry of Anna Schuyler De Peyster:

I- TJERCK JANSZ  
Born about 1577  
Lived at Emden and Amsterdam  
Married  
: : : : : :

II- PIETER TJERCKSZ  
Born about 1601 at Emden  
Married October 24, 1627  
(Oude Kerk Amsterdam)  
GEERTRUYT PHILIPS VAN SCHUYLDER  
Born about 1603

Their children took the mother's surname

III- DAVID PIETERSE SCHUYLER  
Bapt. February 12, 1636  
(Nieuwe Kerk Amsterdam)  
Settled with his brother Philip  
at Fort Orange.  
Died February 11, 1690  
Married October 13, 1657  
(New Amst. Dutch Ref. Ch.)  
CATALYN VERPLANCK  
Born February 1638-9  
Died October 8, 1708  
Daughter of  
ABRAHAM ISAACSE VERPLANCK and  
MARIA, daughter of  
GELYN VIGNE and  
ADRIENNE CUVILLIER  
WALLOONS, who were among the  
first settlers of  
New Amsterdam, 1624

IV- MYNDERT SCHUYLER  
Born January 16. 1672  
Died October 11, 1755  
Married October 26, 1693  
RACHEL CUYLER \*

V- ANNA SCHUYLER  
Married JOHANNES DE PEYSTER  
She was  
Born February 27, 1696/7  
Died September 13, 1750





The Ancestry of Anna Bancker De Peyster:

GERRIT BANCKER

Born

Died

Married April 10, 1658

ELIZABETH VAN EPPS

daughter of

DIRK VAN EPPS and

MARRITIE DAMEN (see page 14)

Their daughter

ANNA BANCKER

Born March 21, 1670

Died

Married

JOHANNES DE PEYSTER, SR.



VAN BRUGGE VAN CORTLANDT CUYLER

The Ancestry of Catharina Van Brugge Van Rensselaer:

- I- WILLEM VAN BRUGGE  
of Leendt, North Brabant
- II- GILLES VAN BRUGGE  
of Leendt and Haarlem  
Born about 1530-40
- III- JAN VAN BRUGGE  
Married  
GEERTGEN JACOBS
- IV- PIETER VAN BRUGGE  
of Haarlem  
visited New Netherland in 1653  
Married  
HELENA POTTAI
- V- JOHANNES VAN BRUGGE  
Born about 1624 at Haarlem  
Died  
Married March 29, 1658  
(New Amst. Dutch Ref. Ch.)  
CATHARINA ROELOFFS  
daughter of  
ROELOF JANSEN and  
ANNEKE JANS  
(made famous by the hundred year  
effort of the Anneke Jans heirs to  
recover the Trinity Church property)
- VI- CATHARINA VAN BRUGGE  
Bapt. April 19, 1665  
(N.Y. Dutch Ref. Ch.)  
Died December 6, 1730  
Married  
HENDRICK VAN RENSSELAER





The ancestry of Maria Van Cortlandt Van Rensselaer:

The Van Cortlandts having become "lords of the manor" and assumed the equivalent of nobility that prevailed in New York Colony it was but natural that myths of noble or even royal ancestry should arise. A racketeering genealogist long ago created such a pedigree for the Van Cortlandts. Lately the fairy tale has been exploded. Maria's father, OLOFF STEVENSE VAN CORTLANDT, came to New Netherland in 1638 as a private soldier of the Dutch West India Company. He had a fair education and came of reputable middle class people. By his own efforts as a merchant and trader he raised himself to be the fourth richest man in the colony and almost its leading citizen. He was the first example of the self made New Yorker and his descendants might well think that more to his credit than noble descent.

I- ADRIAEN : : : :  
of Wijck-bij-Duurstede  
born about 1470

II- ALARDT ADRIAENSZ  
Born about 1500  
Died before January 16, 1568  
Married MARIE, STEVEN ROBBERTS' DAUGHTER

III- JAN ALARDTS  
Died before April, 1578  
Married  
CORNELIA, JAN HERMANS' DAUGHTER, who  
Died before April, 1578

IV- CORNELIS JANSZ CORTLANDT  
Died before April 27, 1611  
Married before April 3, 1578  
CATHARINA JANS  
Died 1611

V- STEVEN CORNELISE VAN CORTLANDT  
Died before March 21, 1652  
(continued)



- V- STEVEN CORNELISE VAN CORTLANDT  
Married February 1609  
FIJCHGEN OLOFFS who  
died after March 21, 1652
- VI- OLOFF STEVENSE VAN CORTLANDT  
Born  
Died April 5, 1684  
Married February 26, 1642  
(New Amst. Dutch Ref. Ch.)  
ANNEKEN LOOCKERMANS
- VII- MARIA VAN CORTLANDT  
Born July 30 (?) 1645  
Died January 20, 1689  
After the death of her  
husband, the patroon  
Jeremias Van Rensselaer  
this young woman administered  
the colony with ability  
for a number of years, as the  
published volume of her corres-  
pondence well attests.





### The Ancestry of Rachel Cuyler Schuyler:

Although not, so far as I can judge from the records of the family in Holland, possessing any special social superiority at the time of their immigration, the Cuylers did come of people enjoying greater wealth than most of the peasants and tradespeople who constituted the bulk of the settlers. Social aristocracy among the Settlers of New Netherland is a myth. Two or three came over who belonged to the minor nobility but few remained. Van Rensselaer, Van Cortlandt, Phillipse, Douw, Cuyler, Ten Broeck, Lansing, Schermerhorn, to name a few whose descendants became colonial notables; Van der Donck, who was our second admitted lawyer and first man of letters but left no descendants; Van Steenwyck, who left no male descendants-- these were or became in the Colony names to conjure with, but in the Netherlands they were for the most part burghers, merchants, tradesmen. Van Rensselaer was the son of a country squire, an officer in the army, himself a successful Amsterdam jeweler. Director General Stuyvesant was the son of a country clergyman. Adriaen Van der Donck, who gave its name to Yonkers, was by right of birth a Joncker, one of the lowest order of nobility, about equivalent to an English "county family."

Albany society invented an aristocracy, however, and has clung to the institution down to our times. In Albany you either "belong" or you don't. No family has greater claims to belonging than the Cuylers. Cuyler Reynolds, in many lines your cousin and of the abler rank of local historians, has pointed out that the Cuylers are closely connected with most of the Albany mayors, from the first in 1686 until the Revolution and after. This is a record



which you cannot quite match, although you are descended from or closely related to:

Lieut. Col. Myndert Schuyler, Mayor 1719-20  
Hendrick Hansen, Mayor 1698-99  
Hans Hansen, Mayor 1731-32 and 1754-56  
Capt. Johannes De Peyster, Mayor 1729-31, 32-33, 41-42  
Major Dirck Wesselse Ten Broeck, Mayor 1696-98  
Johannes Cuyler, Mayor 1725-26  
Volckert Petrus Douw, Mayor 1761-70.

The Cuyler line has been traced to the 15th century. It was a burgher family, of Hasselt in the North Netherlands, the village where Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, the first patroon, was born.

- I- TYDEMAN CUYLER
- II- : : : : CUYLER
- III- ANDRIES CUYLER  
Married  
JOHANNA : : : :
- IV- ENGBERT CUYLER  
Born before 1509  
Married  
WIBBE : : : : :
- V- ANDRIES CUYLER  
Died before 1612  
Married  
IDA: : : : : :
- VI- CORNELIS CUYLER  
Died before 1592  
Married  
MARRIETIEN ISEBRANTS
- VII- REYNIER CUYLER  
Born about 1578-80  
Married  
HENDRYCKIEN JANS
- VIII- ISEBRANT CUYLER  
Married  
EVERTIEN JANS
- IX- HENDRICK CUYLER  
Emigrated to New Netherland before 1660  
(Continued)





IX- HENDRICK CUYLER  
Baptized, Hasselt  
Reformed Dutch Church,  
August 11, 1637  
Married, about 1660  
ANNA SCHEPMOES  
Baptized, New York  
Reformed Dutch Church,  
February 16, 1642  
Died 1762-3  
Daughter of  
JAN JANSEN SCHEPMOES  
Died 1656, and  
SARA PIETERS

X- RACHEL CUYLER  
Born April 22, 1674  
Died July 22, 1747  
Married October 26, 1693  
MYNDERT SCHUYLER

You are of the seventeenth generation from Tydeman Cuyler.



## HANSEN LOW TEN BROECK

Van Rensselaers, Hansens and Douws, all prominent in Albany colonial society, lived across the Hudson River from Albany in what is now Rensselaer County. In colonial times these regions were under the jurisdiction of the Albany City government or of the Manor of Rensselaerswyck.

The two wives of Stanislas Pascal Franchot, the immigrant, Catherine, born May 24, 1783 and Deborah Hansen, her sister, born June 7, 1787, were daughters of Derrick (Dirck) Hansen and Helen Low. It is said, not incorrectly, that they were born in Albany, but doubtless it was in or near what is now the City of Rensselaer, formerly known from early times as Greenbush. There was located the Hansen family home-  
stead.

On Dirck Hansen's death, his widow in 1800 became the third wife of Rev. Dr. William Linn, of Pennsylvania Scotch-Irish blood, a noted minister of the New York Dutch Reformed Church. Their only child was the Mrs. Stanislas Pascal Franchot's half brother, Judge Archibald Laidlie Linn, who became further related through his and Nicholas Van Vranken's marriages to McClelland sisters.

To what I said in the Van Vranken notes of Dr. Linn I may add that he was a stalwart anti-Jeffersonian, a controversialist on the ancient question of infant baptism, and an inspirational preacher, whose voice, it was said by an admiring contemporary, could be heard a mile.

Although a Franchot ancestor only by his marriage to the widow Helena, his portrait should not be omitted from your ancestral gallery.







REV. WILLIAM LINN, D.D.

"Great as my attachment is to the denomination to which I belong, and ever studious to promote their spiritual benefit, I consider them as part of the Catholic church, and every one members one of another."-  
(Discourses on the Signs of the Times, New York, 1794.)



The Hansen Line:

CAPT. HANS HENDRICKSEN  
Born in the Netherlands  
Died 1697  
Married  
EVA DE MEYER\*

    Their son  
HENDRICK HANSEN  
Born  
Died February 1724 (buried Feb.19,1724)  
Mayor of Albany, 1698-99  
Married September 21, 1692  
Debora Van Dam\*

Their children, following the English custom,  
adopted the surname, Hansen, rather than the  
patronymic, Hendricksen, according to Dutch  
custom. Many others about this time adopted  
"van" surnames from their place of origin,  
often a farmstead or hamlet.

    Their sons

HANS HANSEN  
Mayor of Albany  
1731-32, 54-56

RICHARD HANSEN  
Born at Albany  
August 15, 1703  
Died  
Married (1) SARA THONG  
          (2) July 5, 1738

CATERINA TEN BROECK\*

    Their son

DIRCK HANSEN  
Born at Albany  
April 18, 1743  
Died at Greenbush  
September 9, 1794  
Married at Albany  
July 4, 1781  
HELENA LOW\*

    Their daughters

CATHERINE HANSEN  
Born at Greenbush  
May 24, 1783\*\*  
Died at Morris  
March 11, 1818  
Married  
August 28, 1806

DEBORAH HANSEN  
Born at Greenbush  
June 7, 1787  
Died at Morris  
January 12, 1862  
Married  
November 2, 1820

STANISLAS PASCAL FRANCHOT    STANISLAS PASCAL FRANCHOT

\* Data on sheets to follow

\*\* Albany baptismal record dates birth May 26, 1782





The Low Line:

PIETER CORNELISEN LOW  
Born in Schleswig-Holstein  
Died  
Married October 27, 1668  
ELIZABETH BLANCHAN\*

    Their son  
CORNELIS LOW  
Born  
Died September 10, 1748  
Married July 5, 1695  
MARGARETA VAN BORSUM\*

    Their sons

PIETER LOW  
Born October 17, 1697  
Died 1750  
Married August 9, 1721  
RACHEL ROOSEVELT\*

    Their son  
NICHOLAS LOW-Married April 26, 1753-  
Born March 7, 1733  
Died 1789

JOHN LOW  
Born September 9, 1702  
Died 1774  
Married January 30, 1724  
SARAH PROVOOST\*

    Their daughter

SARAH LOW  
Born  
Died

    Their daughter  
HELENA LOW  
Born October 21, 1760  
Died 1846  
Married (1) July 4, 1781  
DIRCK HANSEN  
    (2) 1800  
REV. WILLIAM LINN, D.D.



## The Ten Broeck Line:

Mrs. Runk's Ten Broeck Genealogy is a sound, scholarly work  
Although published many years ago there is little to add to it now:

WESSEL TEN BROECK

Probably did not come  
to New Netherland

His son

MAJOR DIRCK WESSELSSE TEN BROECK

Born December 18, 1642

Died September 18, 1717

Mayor of Albany 1696-98

Indian Commissioner

Married 1663

CHRISTINA VAN BUREN\*

Their son

JOHANNES TEN BROECK

Born 1683

Died

Alderman and Treasurer of Albany

Married (1) Elizabeth Wendell

(2) December 29, 1714

CATERINA VAN RENSSELAER\*\*

Their daughter

CATERINA TEN BROECK

Born at Albany

January 3, 1716/17

Died

Married July 5, 1738

RICHARD HANSEN

\*\* She was a daughter of Hendrick Van Rensselaer, first proprietor  
of the Lower or Claverack manor. Her ancestry appears at page 22  
of the Van Vranken notes.

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JOHANNES TEN BROECK  
From the Oil-Painting of 1720.

The father of Caterina Ten Broeck  
wife of Richard Hansen





CATRYNA VAN RENSSELAER (TEN BROECK).  
From the Oil-Portrait of 1720.

The mother of Caterina Ten Broeck Hansen







PLATE 13

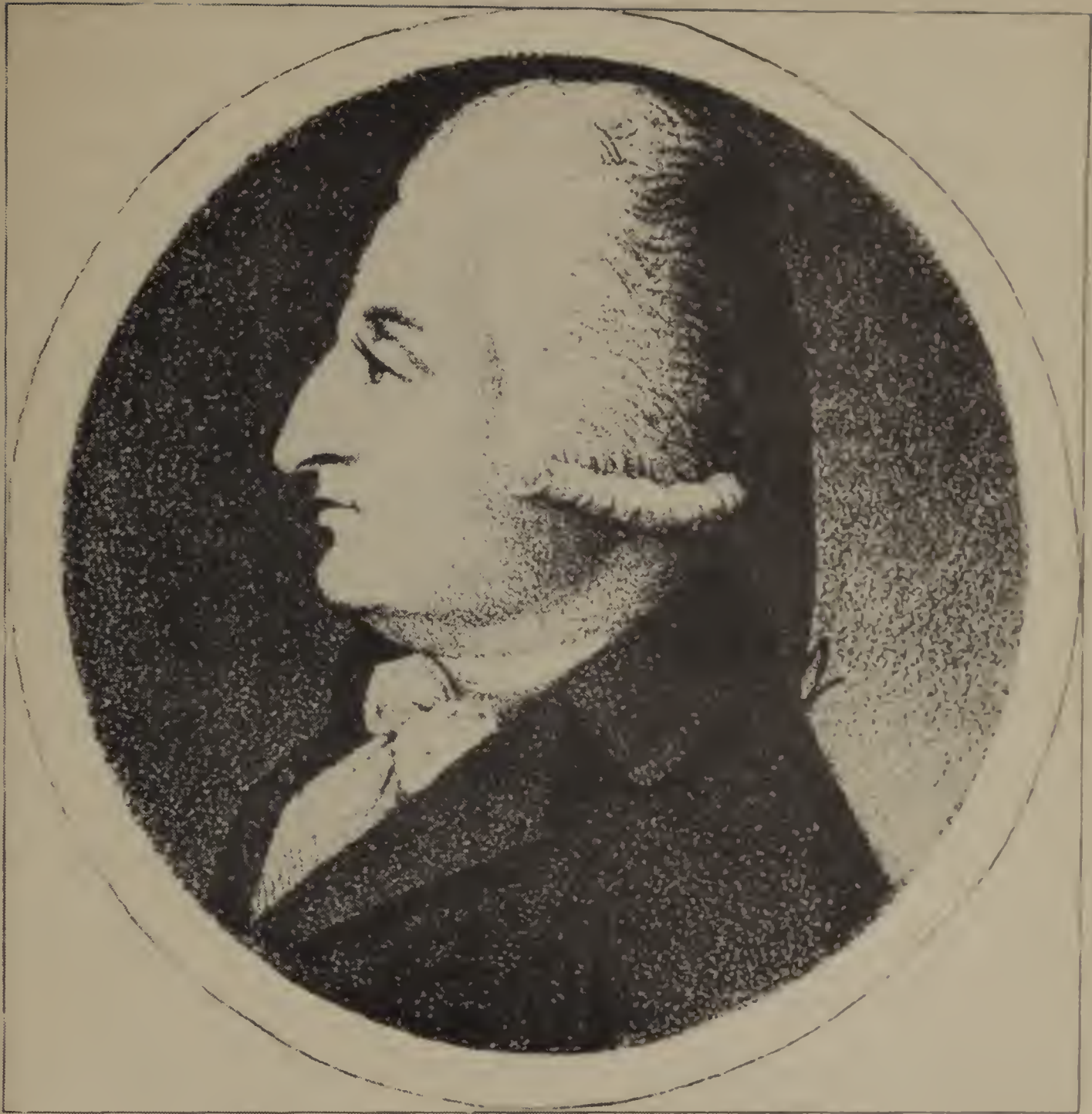
*The north side of State Street,*

Albany; from North Pearl Street, eastward, in 1806. From a painting by James Eights. At the left on the corner of North Pearl is the house of Domine Schaets, built in 1657. At the right on the corner of James Street is a small house in which Anneke Jans, the widow of Domine Everardus Bogardus, died in 1663, and which later was owned by Dirck Wesselse Ten Broeck. The plate was made from a photograph taken by the late Augustus Pruyn of Albany.

130

For Anneke Jans descent see page 26  
For Ten Broeck descent see page 35





21. DIRCK TEN BROECK.

September 29, 1746–October 2, 1749.

From a photograph made by Austin Engraving Co., from an old engraving owned by The Albany Institute.

Mayor of Albany

Brother of Caterina Ten Broeck Hansen







## The Ancestry of Deborah Van Dam Hansen:

Deborah's name passed down to the second Mrs. Stanislas Pascal Franchot. Her brother was Rip Van Dam, a notable figure in New York Colonial history early in the eighteenth century. He stood for John Peter Zenger in his epoch making libel trial which did much to establish the freedom of the press. A stalwart supporter of the popular or anti-crown party he gave New York as acting Governor a more democratic government than it had ever had. As president of the Council he served in the year interim between the death of Governor Montgomerie and the arrival of Governor Cosby. Not alone was he Richard Hansen's uncle- Richard's first wife, Sarah Thong, was his grand-daughter. Washington Irving in his burlesque history elevated the name of an unpretending middle class Hudson Valley family, the Knickerbockers, to the rank of a cachet of aristocracy; and by the same token he degraded the respectable, even notable name of Rip to connote a bibulous ne'er-do-well.

CLAAS RIPSEN VAN DAM  
a carpenter at Fort Orange  
Married  
MARIA BORDS

Their children

RIP VAN DAM  
President of  
the Council  
of New York  
Acting Governor  
1731-32  
Born about 1660  
Died June 10, 1749

DEBORA VAN DAM  
Married September 21, 1692  
HENDRICK HANSEN



Eva De Meyer, wife of Capt. Hans  
Hendricksen (Hansen):

She was baptized at New Amsterdam, April 26, 1643, the daughter of Gillis Pieterse, a carpenter, originally from Gouda. He married Elsie Hendricks, a native of Amsterdam, at New Amsterdam, July 6, 1642.





## XII

### THE ROOSEVELTS

#### The Ancestry of Rachel Roosevelt Low:

The Roosevelts have this in common with another family that attained great note, the Vanderbilts- both originated with an insignificant farmer immigrant. Recent researches trace the Roosevelts to the owners of a freehold in Zeeland, Netherlands, known as the Roosevelt. Early generations of Roosevelts who made moderate fortunes in New York adopted a "canting" coat-of-arms showing three roses. I doubt if it antedates Nicholas Roosevelt's success as a Kingston and New York merchant. It is true, however, that arms were used freely by almost all classes in the Netherlands. In France heraldry was reserved for the gentry. To make the name more nearly accord with modern Dutch usage and the meaning of roses some genealogists now write the name of the immigrant as Van Rosenveldt, thus unwittingly implementing a Nazi propaganda lie.

CLAAS MARTENSZ VAN ROOSEVELT  
Came to New Netherland about 1649  
Married  
JANNETJE SAMUELS (or HAMEL)  
Their son  
NICHOLAS (CLAAS) ROOSEVELT\*  
Born October 2, 1658  
Died July 30, 1742  
Married December 9, 1682  
Heyltje Kunst, daughter of JAN BARENTSE  
KUNST and JANNETJE ARIENS

(continued)

\*Nicholas Roosevelt is the nearest common Roosevelt ancestor of Theodore and Franklin D. Roosevelt, and of yourself. The relationship in each case is fifth cousin. In the F.D.R. line Nicholas' grandson Isaac Roosevelt married Cornelia Hoffman, another kinship.



(continued)

    Their daughter  
RACHEL ROOSEVELT  
Born April 22, 1699  
Died  
Married August 9, 1721  
PIETER LOW





## PROVOOST, VAN BORSUM AND BLANCHAN

The Ancestry of Sarah Provoost Low:

I regard the line as traced in the Provoost Genealogy as being doubtful in the intermediate link. The origins in French Huguenot refugees escaping from Paris to Amsterdam after the Massacre of St. Bartholomew in 1572 were traced by Bishop Provoost of New York two centuries ago and are doubtless authentic. The line as stated in the genealogy is as follows:

- I- GUILLAUME PREVOST  
Born in Paris about 1545  
Of a noble Huguenot family  
Escaped to Amsterdam, 1572
- II- JOHANNES PROVOOST  
Born in Amsterdam, 1576  
Married, 1601  
ELIZABETH : : : : :
- (?) III- ELIAS PROVOOST  
Born at Amsterdam, 1602  
Said to have settled at Fort Orange
- IV- JOHANNES PROVOOST  
Married  
SARA STAATS daughter of  
MAJOR ABRAM STAATS, M.D. and  
CATERINA, JOCHEM WESSELS' daughter
- V- JACOBUS PROVOOST, M.D.  
Born at Albany. Practiced at Newark, N.J.  
Married at New York, June 1, 1699  
MARIA VAN DER POOL\*
- VI- SARAH PROVOOST  
Married January 30, 1724  
JOHN LOW  
Her father's medical books,  
in the Dutch language, were  
bequeathed by her husband's  
will.



The Ancestry of Margareta Van Borsum Low:

Like the Lows the Van Borsums, although coming from High Germany, may have been among the many families who fled thither from the Spanish dominion of the Netherlands under Alva. The Franchot book is in error in stating that they came on the ship "Van Embden." The record says they were from Embden (Emden) in Germany, and they took to themselves a place surname after the suburb, Borssum, which adjoins Emden.

EGBERT VAN BORSUM

Born at Emden, Germany

Died before 1676

Married at New Amsterdam

December 11, 1639

(the first marriage recorded  
in the earliest extant church  
register)

ANNETJE HENDRICKS from Amsterdam

Their son

TYMON VAN BORSUM

Baptized at New Amsterdam

September 17, 1651

Died 1702/3

Married February 3, 1675

GRIETJE FOCKENS, from Ruijnen, Drenthe  
widow of Philip Jansz de Vos

Their daughter

MARGARET VAN BORSUM

Baptized at New York

September 20, 1679

Married July 5, 1695

CORNELIS LOW

- - - 0 - - -

Elizabeth Blanchan Low:

She was one of the daughters of MATHIEU BLANCHAN and MADELEINE JORISSE, Huguenots from Nieuville in the province of Artois. Blanchan has been called the grandfather of Ulster County for there is scarcely an old Ulster family that does not trace to one of his daughters.





VAN BUREN

VAN DER POOL

Van Buren Ancestry:

This is, of course, your second line of presidential kinship. Considering that the common ancestor was the great-great-great grandfather of President Martin Van Buren, the relationship is even more remote than to Theodore or, - Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The Van Burens were farmer folk, both in the Netherlands and here. The settler came from Buurmalsen, or Bueren, and it was his son who took the surname, Van Buren. Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, the patroon, sent him over to be a tenant farmer, and his first residence was in the Greenbush neighborhood. Later the family settled in Kinderhook, and there rose to prominence.

CORNELIS MAAS, from Buren  
Arrived on the "Arms of Rensselaerswyck" 1638  
Married in the Netherlands  
CATALYNTJE MARTENS  
Their daughter  
CHRISTINA VAN BUREN  
Born in Rensselaerswyck  
May 19, 1644  
Died November 24, 1729  
Married 1663  
DIRCK WESSELSE TEN BROECK

Ancestry of Maria Van der Pool Provoost:

WYNANT GERRITSE VAN DER POOL, from Gorcum  
Married  
TRYNTJE MELGERS  
licensed midwife at Albany  
Their son  
MELGERT (MELCHIOR) VAN DER POOL  
Married  
ADRIAANTJE VER PLANCK  
Baptized (New Amsterdam Dutch Ref. Ch.)  
December 2, 1646  
Daughter of  
ABRAHAM ISAACSE VER PLANCK (see page 24)  
Their daughter  
MARIA VAN DER POOL  
Married  
(DR.) JACOBUS PROVOOST



NICHOLAS VAN VRANKEN AND THE SCHENECTADY  
LANCASTERIAN SCHOOL

At the beginning of the Nineteenth Century there was up-swinging in England, and especially in America, a movement to democratize education.

As then understood, education fell into three types - elementary, academic and fashionable or polite\*. Elementary schools were not free, much less academies, seminaries and colleges.

In 1791 Gov. George Clinton, in a speech before the New York Legislature, deplored that education had been chiefly for the opulent\*\*. His nephew, Gov. DeWitt Clinton, was for years one of the leading advocates in America of cheap or free schools.

Active in England at this period was a young schoolmaster named Joseph Lancaster. He had an original faculty of mind, and marked ability to get the ear and the confidence of the great men of his time. But his appetite for pedagogic conquest far outran his judgment; and, too, his corporal appetite, for he became extremely obese. Despite great success of his plan, he was always in debt and in controversy. However, as Eliphalet Nott declared in an address at Union College in July, 1811, Lancaster was "introducing a new era in education" which was, in fact, the era of the modern public elementary school.

Lancaster's sketch of his system and work, "Improvements in Education", circulated widely in the United States, and within a few years there were more Lancaster schools here, probably, than in England. A disciple of Lancaster's who came to America, and the book, together completely won over DeWitt Clinton, and Clinton was

\* Fitzpatrick: The Educational Views and Influence of DeWitt Clinton,  
page 32

\*\* C.Z.Lincoln: Papers of the Governors, etc.







for the remainder of his life, a quarter of a century, the prime mover for the establishment of these free or very inexpensive schools.

It is curious, but it largely accounts for the success, that so much of Lancaster's plan evolved directly from expedients to make both ends meet. The basic idea was what Lancaster christened the monitorial system. "Monitors" in school still continue, but under Lancaster they were pupil-teachers. By this means Lancaster could, and did successfully, conduct single-handed a school for one thousand poor London boys. Inexpensiveness was attained in other ways. The first learning was forming letters and figures on sand boards. Then followed a "promotion" to the use of slates, finally another promotion to the paper and ink. But as paper was expensive Lancaster advised using leaves from old books. The ink used was of a different tint and could be read over the print. But Lancaster warned to watch out for corrupting texts! Since school books were scarce and expensive, the lessons were lettered on posters hung on the walls of the school room. According to progress made, the pupils were divided into classes, about eight in number, all, of course, within the one large school room, over which the master presided at the end. Not more than ten scholars of each class were to recite at a time. The groups gathered, standing, around the graded lessons hanging on the wall, and received instructions from the more advanced boy who was, for the time being, their monitor. The monitors were provided with the distinction of badges of office, but discretion was required to see to it that from too much teaching they did not neglect their own learning. There were many prizes and no corporal punishment.

Today it seems like a strange plan, certainly a far cry





from the tutorial system such as has been introduced at Harvard and elsewhere in recent years, with a paid teacher for every few pupils.

Yet, whether from the emulation that it induced, from the merits of the system or from the genius of the master, it worked in some of the schools surprisingly well, if we are to believe the testimony of DeWitt Clinton\* and Nicholas Van Vranken.

In 1818 Joseph Lancaster was in trouble with his creditors and with the Board having in charge the London Lancaster schools, and he came to America. Here DeWitt Clinton received him with open arms, as a great benefactor of mankind. He arranged for him to lecture in New York, Albany, Troy, Waterford, Lansingburgh, Schenectady, Hudson. Lancaster appeared at Schenectady in November, 1818\*\*. Later he visited Montreal, Philadelphia, Washington, resided in Baltimore, visited Simon Bolivar in Venezuela, returned to the United States, and died here in 1838.

The Lancaster schools at Albany and Schenectady appear to have some family relation. Surveyor-General Simeon DeWitt was kin to DeWitt Clinton, and Mrs. DeWitt was a daughter of Rev. Dr. William Linn. Simeon DeWitt was for years the principal trustee of the Albany Lancaster school in which, between 1812 and 1836, it is said ten thousand boys were educated.

By act of the Legislature passed November 12, 1816, the Schenectady Lancasterian School was incorporated. By vote of the trustees adopted January 10, 1818, Nicholas Van Vranken was chosen teacher, and the school opened June 24, 1818. In November, 1818,

\* Address on opening of new building of New York City Lancaster School, December, 1809, Campbell's Life of DeWitt Clinton

\*\*Fitzpatrick: pages 115-116





came the great event of Joseph Lancaster's visit. The occurrences of the day must be left to the imagination, no account having been handed down to us.

Tenney and Howell's Bi-Centennial History of Albany(p. 122 of the Schenectady part) has this to say:

"The first Teacher's Report to the Board, showing the results of the Lancasterian system, was presented by Nicholas Van Vranken, March 1820. In this remarkably able paper it is stated: 'The whole number of scholars admitted into the school since the 1st March 1819 is 267. The school is divided into eight reading classes; from the first to the second of these there have been 27 promotions; to the third, 28; to the fourth, 26; to the fifth, 44; to the sixth, 31; to the seventh, 39, and to the eighth, 36.....When it is taken into consideration that none are permitted to write on paper but those who write a fair and handsome hand on the slate, and that 154 out of 267 have done this, the excellence of the place must stand unquestioned.'"

The master was started with a salary of \$750 or so much thereof as was the net over expenses. In 1824 the tuition was fixed at 25¢ per quarter, with 50 free scholars, and the teacher's salary at \$500. In 1832 the teacher was to receive the net remaining of both public funds and 25¢ tuition after paying all expenses. It is probable that Nicholas Van Vranken's growing family made too many demands on him for the meagre salary. In 1833 he declined reappointment and was succeeded by Ezekiel Sexton. But when the free school system superseded the Lancaster school in 1854 he became the president of the Board of Education of Schenectady.

I shall append to this brief account of the Schenectady Lancasterian School two original documents from the collection of Van Vranken papers in possession of Mr. N.V.V. Franchot.



Nicholas Van Vranken's Certificate as a Teacher under the  
Lancasterian System

This is to Certify that Nicholas Van Vranken was introduced to the Teachers of the New York Free Schools by John Murray Jun<sup>r</sup> Vice Pres<sup>t</sup> of the "Free School Society" for the purpose of learning the Lancasterian System of education, that he has been regular in his attendance and has become practically acquainted with the various duties of Monitor General of Order, Dictator, Lesson Fixer, Inspector, &c &c and we are satisfied that he is perfectly competent to Organize and Conduct a School upon the late improved Lancasterian System as practised in the New York Free Schools belonging to the Free School Society of New York

New York April 22<sup>nd</sup> 1818

Lloyd D. Windsor  
Teacher of School N<sup>o</sup> One

Henry A. Cooper  
Monitor General of Order  
School N<sup>o</sup> 1

John Missing  
Teacher of School N<sup>o</sup> Two

Walter C. Palmer  
Monitor General of Order  
School N<sup>o</sup> 2

-----o-----

Nicholas Van Vranken's Report for the Year 1821 on the  
Schenectady Lancasterian School

Since the last Report 329 children have been received into the School, of whom 160 are at present on the Register.

In the course of the year 62 have been instructed in the Alphabet; 56 of these have been advanced to the second class-- 53 have entered into the third class-- 59 into the fourth-- 75







into the fifth, who have been exercised in Reading, Extracts from the Bible and spelling words of two and three syllables-- 94 into the sixth, reading selections from the Bible and Murray's Introduction and spelling words of three and four syllables-- 110 into the seventh, reading Murray's English Reader and Sequel, and spelling generally-- 135 into the eighth, reading Sampson's Brief Remarker and spelling short sentences containing four, five and sometimes more words.

Besides the above exercises of reading and spelling from books, all the scholars with the exception of the cipherers and alphabet class have been occupied a portion of each school time, in writing words adapted to their proficiency, dictated to them from the lessons-- thus learning not only orthography and pronunciation of words; but also enjoying the advantages of learning to write them properly at the same time.

In the meantime, and without interfering in the least degree with the dictation, the cipherers have attended to their respective duties-- some in drafts along the wall, others at their desks, and all under the charge of proper monitors. 185 have attended to, and progressed more or less in Arithmetic. Many have become well acquainted with all the higher rules-- Viz. Interest, Fellowship, Position, Fractions, vulgar and decimal, Square and Cube Root, etc.

Writing on paper has also become a daily and a very profitable exercise. 189 have in the course of the year enjoyed this privilege; Grammar and Geography, with the drawing of maps, have enjoyed the attention of many of the scholars.

The above mentioned branches constitute what is considered the regular course of instruction in our School. In addition, however, Bookkeeping and Surveying have been partially attended to.





The handwriting of children at school has heretofore in most schools been of such a character as to make it necessary, when entering into business, to lay it aside, as too awkward and tedious; and accident alone must be depended on for acquiring a decent and an easy hand. This inconvenience has been attempted to be overcome by the introduction into the School of a short, simple and easy system of running hand which it will never be necessary to desert or despise. The result of the experiment has been submitted to the inspection of the Trustees. The apparent superiority of the plan was such, that in order to give our scholars the full benefit of it, it was thought best to give them the privilege of writing every day, provided they furnished themselves with paper. A great number did so; while those who preferred the usual mode of writing twice a week were furnished with books as heretofore, but, notwithstanding, wrote on the improved plan. The consequence has been that in the short space of four months, an almost incredible change has been effected in that department.

When the school is in operation and our little community at work, an observing mind will not fail to notice the character of industry and of business which always attends a Lancasterian school. The exercises are all active and well calculated to engage the attention and draw forth the energy of children. They are adapted to their active dispositions and in consequence are attended to with alacrity and pleasure. The hope of reward and the desire to excel, are principles which operate as strongly on the scholar's mind and stimulate to as powerful exertion, as they do in the mind of the statesman or warrior. Emulation once excited, improvement must follow it. Nor is improvement in education the only advantage to be





derived from this course of mutual instruction; the order, discipline and system pursued are admirably calculated to give children correct ideas of the value of property and of those duties which they owe to Society and themselves.

Read and accepted Feby. 22, 1822.

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"The Christian Intelligencer" for February 4, 1864, the well known organ of the Dutch Reformed Church, contains an extended obituary notice of Nicholas Van Vranken. A few extracts will be given for the information they convey:

Died, in Schenectady, N.Y., on the 29th of January, Mr. Nicholas Van Vranken, in the 73rd year of his age. \* \* \*

He was born in the year 1791. He grew to manhood, lived, labored and died among his kindred. He enjoyed when young the advantages of a liberal education, and graduated at Union College.

The study of medicine enlisted his attention, and he was regularly admitted to practice. But the death of a single patient was too much for his finely strung sensibilities and he abandoned the profession soon after he entered it. Several years were then spent in teaching; and many who are now living can bear witness to his skill and proficiency as an instructor of youth. He at length engaged in the mercantile business, in which he continued till his death. \* \* \*

In the year 1831 he professed his faith in Christ, in connection with the First Reformed Dutch Church \* \* \*. For about thirty years he has filled the office of Treasurer \* \* \*



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Jeremias Van Rensselaer portrait is from the Article on the Van Rensselaers' in Colonial Lords of Manors Collections, Vol. 23.

Rev. Dr. William Linn's portrait is from a pamphlet biography published by the New York Collegiate Reformed Church.

Portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Johannes Ten Broeck are from the Ten Broeck Genealogy.

Other portraits are from Cuyler Reynolds' Albany Chronicles.

The pictures of the old houses with number plates are from Helen Wilkinson Reynolds' Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley. Other pictures of houses are from the Ten Broeck Genealogy and Cuyler Reynolds' Genealogical & Family History of Southern New York.

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Various well known genealogical works and articles in the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record have been freely used. Where dates vary from the former it is because of corrections from church and bible records. The excellent compilation made about twenty-five years ago by Miss Katharine Hansen Franchot and Mrs. Louise Franchot Munson was not available when these data were assembled. It has since been compared and found to agree in almost every particular except a few dates, as to which Miss Franchot's and Mrs. Munson's authorities were in error.



















